Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1-121. (Cancelled)

122. (New) A method of concentrating an antibody preparation comprising:

(a) providing an initial antibody preparation, which comprises an aqueous solution of anti-CD20 antibodies and histidine or acetate buffer, wherein the concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is about 2mM to about 48mM, and

(b) filtering the initial antibody preparation using a membrane filtration that removes water and buffer but not antibodies.

123. (New) The method of claim 122, wherein said initial antibody preparation does not contain a stabilizing or viscosity-reducing additive.

124. (New) The method of claim 123, wherein said stabilizing or viscosity-reducing additive is selected from the group consisting of a surfactant, a polyol, a saccharide, and a salt at a concentration higher than 50mM.

125. (New) The method of claim 124, wherein said concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is about 3mM to about 48mM.

126. (New) The method of claim 125, wherein said concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is about 4mM to about 45mM.

127. (New) The method of claim 126, wherein said concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is about 5 mM to about 40 mM.

128. (New) The method of claim 127, wherein said concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is 20 mM to 25 mM.

129. (New) The method of claim 122, wherein the pH of the initial antibody preparation is in the range of from about 4.0 to 7.5.

130. (New) The method of claim 129, wherein pH of the initial antibody preparation is in the range of from 4.5 to 7.0.

131. (New) The method of claim 130, wherein the pH of the initial antibody preparation is in the range of from 5.0 to 6.5.

132. (New) The method of claim 131, wherein the pH of the initial antibody preparation is in the range of from 5.5 to 6.0.

133. (New) The method of claim 122, wherein the anti-CD20 antibodies are monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies.

134. (New) The method of claim 133, wherein the monoclonal antibodies are chimeric or humanized.

135. (New) The method of claim 122, wherein the anti-CD20 antibodies are rituximab.

136. (New) The method of claim 122, wherein the anti-CD20 antibodies are IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD, or IgE or one or more combination thereof .

137. (New) The method of claim 122, wherein the concentration of the anti-CD20 antibodies obtained by step b) is at least 50 mg/ml.

138. (New) The method of claim 137, wherein the concentration of the anti-CD20 antibodies obtained by step b) is at least 100 mg/ml.

139. (New) The method of claim 122, wherein the concentrated antibodies are formulated as a pharmaceutical composition.

140. (New) The method of claim 139, wherein said composition is administered to a patient in need thereof.

141. (New) A method of concentrating an antibody preparation comprising:

(a) providing an initial antibody preparation, which consists essentially of an aqueous solution of anti-CD20 antibodies and histidine or acetate buffer, wherein the concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is about 2mM to about 48mM, and

(b) filtering the initial antibody preparation using a membrane filtration that removes water and buffer but not antibodies.

142. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein said concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is about 3mM to about 48mM.

143. (New) The method of claim 142, wherein said concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is about 4mM to about 45mM.

144. (New) The method of claim 143, wherein said concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is about 5 mM to about 40 mM.

145. (New) The method of claim 144, wherein said concentration of the histidine or acetate buffer is 20 mM to 25 mM.

146. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the pH of the initial antibody preparation is in the range of from about 4.0 to 7.5.

147. (New) The method of claim 146, wherein pH of the initial antibody preparation is in the range of from 4.5 to 7.0.

148. (New) The method of claim 147, wherein the pH of the initial antibody preparation is in the range of from 5.0 to 6.5.

149. (New) The method of claim 148, wherein the pH of the initial antibody preparation is in the range of from 5.5 to 6.0.

150. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the anti-CD20 antibodies are monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies.

151. (New) The method of claim 150, wherein the monoclonal antibodies are chimeric or humanized.

152. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the anti-CD20 antibodies are rituximab.

153. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the anti-CD20 antibodies are IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD, or IgE or one or more combination thereof .

154. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the concentration of the anti-CD20 antibodies obtained by step b) is at least 50 mg/ml.

155. (New) The method of claim 154, wherein the concentration of the anti-CD20 antibodies obtained by step b) is at least 100 mg/ml.

156. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the concentrated antibodies are formulated as a pharmaceutical composition.

157. (New) The method of claim 156, wherein said composition is administered to a patient in need thereof.